

## **CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. A method for reformatting a tag-based code containing at least one corresponding beginning and end tag pair, comprising;
  - 5 locating each beginning and end tag of the tag-based code;
  - separating distinct tags and data associated therewith into separate lines;
  - maintaining a tag structure state machine for determining a tag structure corresponding to each line; and
  - delineating each line with a representation of a tag structure corresponding to the line based on the state machine of the tag structure.
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2. The method for reformatting a tag-based code of claim 1, wherein said maintaining the tag structure state machine includes maintaining a LIFO tag stack.
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3. The method for reformatting a tag-based code of claim 2, wherein said maintaining the tag structure state machine includes inserting each beginning tag onto the LIFO tag stack upon locating the beginning tag.
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4. The method for reformatting a tag-based code of claim 2, wherein said maintaining the tag structure state machine includes removing a beginning tag from the LIFO tag stack upon locating a corresponding end tag.

5. The method for reformatting a tag-based code of claim 1, wherein said delineating each line with a representation of a tag structure corresponding to the line based on the state machine of the tag structure includes prefixing each line with said representation.

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6. The method for reformatting a tag-based code of claim 1, wherein said tag-based code is selected from the group consisting of HTML, XML, and C.

7. The method for reformatting a tag-based code of claim 1, wherein said

10 separating distinct tags and data associated therewith into separate lines includes:

placing each beginning tag and any data associated therewith prior to a next beginning tag, if any, on a new line;

placing each end tag on a same line as any data associated therewith immediate before the end tag; and

8. A computer program product for reformatting a tag-based code containing at least one corresponding beginning and end tag pair, comprising:

computer code that locates each beginning and end tag of the tag-based code;

5 computer code that separates distinct tags and data associated therewith into separate lines;

computer code that maintains a tag structure state machine for determining a tag structure corresponding to each line;

computer code that delineates each line with a representation of a tag  
10 structure corresponding to the line based on the state machine of the tag structure; and  
a computer readable medium that stores said computer codes.

9. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the computer code that maintains the tag structure state machine includes computer code that maintains a LIFO  
15 tag stack.

10. The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the computer code that maintains the tag structure state machine includes computer code that inserts each beginning tag onto the LIFO tag stack upon locating the beginning tag.

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11. The computer program product of claim 9, wherein the computer code that maintains the tag structure state machine includes computer code that removes a beginning tag from the LIFO tag stack upon locating a corresponding end tag.

12. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the computer code that delineates each line with a representation of a tag structure corresponding to the line based on the state-machine of the tag structure includes computer code that prefixes each 5 line with said representation.

13. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein said tag-based code is selected from the group consisting of HTML, XML, and C.

10 14. The computer program product claim 8, wherein the computer code that separates distinct tags and data associated therewith into separate lines includes:  
the computer code that places each beginning tag and any data associated therewith prior to a next beginning tag, if any, on a new line;  
the computer code that places each end tag on a same line as any data 15 associated therewith immediate before the end tag; and  
the computer code that initiates a new line each time an end tag is processed if the end of the file is not yet reached.

15. A method for processing a tag-based code containing at least one corresponding beginning and end tag pair using script tools, comprising:

reformatting the tag-based code; and

utilizing script tools to process the reformatted code,

wherein said reformatting includes:

locating each beginning and end tag of the tag-based code;

separating distinct tags and data associated therewith into separate

lines;

maintaining a tag structure state machine for determining a tag

structure corresponding to each line; and

delineating each line with a representation of a tag structure

corresponding to the line based on the state-machine of the tag structure.

16. A method for processing a tag-based code of claim 15, further comprising  
15 stripping each line of the processed and reformatted code of the delineation representing  
the tag structure corresponding to the line.